

United States Army
Brigade Commander
Brian A. Payne

Colonel
120th Infantry Brigade
First Army Division West



Colonel Brian A. Payne commissioned as an Infantry Second Lieutenant upon graduating Texas A&M University with a Bachelors of Science in Wildlife Biology in 1992. Colonel Payne's initial assignment was with the 10th Mountain Division in Fort Drum, New York as a Rifle Platoon Leader, S3 Air, Scout Platoon Leader and Battalion S4 with the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment. During this tour he participated in Operation Restore Hope, Somalia and Operation Uphold Democracy, Haiti. Colonel Payne's other key assignments include Company Commander of A Company, 2-502 Infantry Regiment where he deployed to support Operation Joint Forge, Bosnia. Upon redeployment, he became a Small Group Instructor at the Infantry Advanced Course, Fort Benning and subsequently assigned to the National Training Center as a Maneuver Observer/Controller. Selected to attend the Command and General Staff College, Colonel Payne also attended Kansas State University earning a Masters of Science in Adult Education. Following attendance at the School for Advance Military Studies, where he earned a Master of Military Arts and Sciences, Colonel Payne was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. There he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G5 Plans, the 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry Regiment Battalion Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer, as well as the 3rd Brigade Executive Officer. During this assignment, he served two tours in Iraq, in both Kirkuk and Salah ad Din Provinces. Upon redeployment, Colonel Payne assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry at Fort Wainwright, AK. During command, the unit deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Following command, Colonel Payne served as Army Irregular Warfare Chief at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas before attending the War College at Carlisle Barracks. Recently redeploying from Operation Inherent Resolve, Colonel Payne served as the III Corps G35 and CJTF-OIR Partner Force Development Chief.

Colonel Payne's significant military decorations include the Bronze Star (2 OLC), Defense Meritorious Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (5 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (3 OLC), Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Expert Infantryman Badge.